

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145) CEPOA-CO-R Post Office Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:

31 August 2006

EXPIRATION DATE:

29 September 2006

REFERENCE NUMBER:

POA-2006-1348

WATERWAY:

Yukon River

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

<u>APPLICANT</u>: Unicom, Incorporated, 5450 A Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99518, Contact: Mr. David Heimke, (907) 561-1674

AGENT: Travis/Peterson Environmental Consulting, Incorporated, 3305 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 102, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, for project specific details, please contact: Mr. Noah Zogas, (907) 522-4337

<u>LOCATION</u>: The proposed project is located within sections 13,23,24, and 26,  $\overline{\text{T. 21 N.}}$ , R. 70 W., and sections 7 and 18, T. 21 N., R. 69 W., Seward Meridian; Latitude 61.9278° N., Longitude 161.9958° W.; proposed trail runs from the village of Marshall, Alaska approximately 4.5 miles to Pilcher Mountain.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The purpose of the proposed project is to provide greater telemedical and broadband internet coverage and better service to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region.

WORK: The applicant proposes to construct a 4.5-mile access trail extending from the village of Marshall to the top of Pilcher Mountain. At the top of Pilcher Mountain, the applicant proposes to construct a maintenance building and 50-foot telecommunication tower. Electrical and communication cables would be placed along no more than 80 power poles along the trail route and then buried at the upper elevations. Approximately 40,000 cubic yards of fill material would be placed into 8 acres of wetlands to construct 2.8 of the trail, place power poles, and bury a portion of the lines. The last 1.7 miles of trail, the tower and building, and remainder of the communication lines would be constructed in uplands.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The applicant has proposed to bury part of the communication lines to protect them from the regional icing conditions at the higher elevations and minimize impacts to wetlands. Some of the fill would be excavated from a borrow site in an upland area along the trail. The remainder of the fill material will be taken from an existing and previously permitted airport material site.

MITIGATION: The applicant has incorporated into the proposed project the following mitigation efforts to reduce impacts to the aquatic environment: The trail route was selected to utilize the existing road as much as possible, to follow an existing trail to the summit, and to provide a relatively direct route to minimize wetland impacts. Communication lines are being buried in a portion of the trail, which will decrease the footprint of wetland impacts. Culverts will be placed as to not disrupt natural drainage patterns and streams. Natural ground cover would be left in place at the toe of fill material around culvert installations, and disturbed ground would be revegetated or stabilized with armor rock. In upland construction areas, filter berms of stripped organic material would be placed at the downhill toe of the fill to prevent sedimentation of lower wetlands.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Project Management and Permitting, Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the applicant's certification.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between the Federal government and Federally recognized Tribes. This notice invites participation by agencies, Tribes, and members of the public in the Federal decision-making process. In addition, Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected

rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Engineer during the public comment period.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area. Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or modify their designated critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

#### SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed

activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Julie Woodke at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at julie.a.woodke@poa02.usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

<u>AUTHORITY</u>: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments

#### APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT (33 CFR 325)

OMB APPROVAL NO. 0710-0003 Expires December 31, 2004

The Public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, although the majority of applications should require 5 hours or less. This includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service Directorate of Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0710-0003), Washington, DC 20503. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. Please DO NOT RETURN your form to either of those addresses. Completed applications must be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity.

#### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authorities: Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, 33 USC 1413, Section 103. Principal Purpose: Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Routine Uses: This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies. Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can a permit be issued.

One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see sample drawings and instructions) and be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned.

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	(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 T	TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)						
1. APPLICATION NO.	2. FIELD OFFICE CODE	3. DATE RECEIVED	4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETED					
	(ITEMS BELOW T	O BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)						
5. APPLICANT'S NAME		8. AUTHORIZED AGENT	8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (an agent is not required)					
Unicom, Incorporated David Heimke, Project Manage	x	Michael D. Travis, P.E.						
6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS		7. AGENT'S ADDRESS						
5450 'A' St.		Travis/Peterson Environmen	Travis/Peterson Environmental Consulting, Inc.					
Anchorage, AK 99518		3305 Arctic Blvd., Suite 10	3305 Arctic Blvd., Suite 102					
		Anchorage, AK 99503						
7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NO	S. W/AREA CODE	10. AGENT'S PHONE NO	10. AGENT'S PHONE NOS. W/AREA CODE					
a. Residence		a. Residence	a. Residence					
b. Business (907) 561-1674		b. Business (907) 522-4337						
11.	STATEMENT	OF AUTHORIZATION						
I hereby authorize Michael furnish, upon request, supplemental APPLICANT'S SIGN	ental information in support of this per	to act in my behalf as my ago mit application.	ent in the processing of this application and to  7/3//06  DATE					
	NAME, LOCATION AND DE	SCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR AG	CTIVITY					
12. PROJECT NAME OR TITI	E (see instructions)							
Marshall Telecommunication T	ower							
13. NAME OF WATERBODY,	, IF KNOWN (if applicable)	14. PROJECT STREET AD	14. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (if applicable)					
Yukon River		N/A	N/A					
15. LOCATION OF PROJECT								
Wade Hampton Bo COUNTY	<del></del>	-	·					
16. OTHER LOCATION DESC	CRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (see instruction	ons)						
Sections 13, 23, 24, and 26, To	wnship 021N, Range 070W, Seward N	Meridian, Marshall D-1 Quadrangle	e, and					
Sections 7 and 18, Township 02	21N, Range 069W, Seward Meridian,	Russian Mission D-8 Quadrangle.						

#### 17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

The site is located east and northeast of the community of Marshall. A road currently extends east from Marshall, and the telecommunication tower access trail will extend approximately 4.5 miles north-northeast from the existing road to the tower site near the summit of Pilcher Mountain.

18. Nature of Activity (Description of project, include all features)

From an existing road east of Marshall, an access trail will be constructed extending approximately 4.5 miles north-northeast to a site near the summit of Pilcher Mountain. A telecommunication tower will be constructed at the Pilcher Mountain site. Electrical and communication cables associated with the tower will run aboveground on power poles for the part of the route nearest Marshall, and will be buried beneath the access trail for the remainder of the route.

19. Project Purpose (Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions)

To provide greater tele-medical and broadband internet coverage and better service to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region.

#### USE BLOCKS 20-22 IF DREDGED AND/OR FILL MATERIAL IS TO BE DISCHARGED

20. Reason(s) for Discharge

Burial of electrical and communication lines and construction of an access trail between the community of Marshall and the proposed telecommunication tower facility.

21. Type(s) of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards

Up to 37,000 cubic yards of surface rubble and coarse scree rock from a local materials site.

Up to 3,000 cubic yards of sandy material from along the proposed alignment.

22. Surface Area in Acres of Wetlands or Other Waters Filled (see instructions)

Approximately 2.8 miles of trail, beginning at the existing road near Marshall, will be constructed through wetlands. Approximately 8.00 acres of wetlands will be filled by construction of the trail. Filling of wetlands will be conducted by excavator. The remaining approximate 1.7 miles of trail will be constructed through upland areas. In upland areas, a filter berm of stripped organic material will be placed at the downhill toe of the fill. Natural ground cover will be left in place at the toe of fill material around culvert installations, and disturbed ground will be revegetated or stabilized with armor rock.

23. Is Any Portion of the Work Already Complete? Yes	No	X	IF YES, DESCRIBE THE COMPLETED WORK

24. Addresses of Adjoining Property Owners, Lessees, Etc., Whose Property Adjoins the Waterbody (if more than can be entered here, please attach a supplemental list).

Maserculiq, Incorporated

100 Main Street

Marshall, Alaska 99585

25. List of Other Certifications or Approvals/Denials Received from other Federal, State, or Local Agencies for Work Described in This Application AGENCY TYPE APPROVAL\* IDENTIFICATION NUMBER DATE APPLIED DATE APPROVED

١.	TIGENOT	THEATROVAL	DENTIFICATION NOMBE	K DATE ALL LIED	DATE AFFROVED	DATE DEMIED
	Alaska Coastal Management Prog.	Coastal Project Questionnaire		7-31-2006		
	Federal Aviation Administration	Determination of No Navigation Hazard	2005-AAL-167-OE	Unknown	8-17-2005	
	Alaska Historic Preservation Office	No Historic Properties Affected Determination	3130-1RFCC	Unknown	4-6-2006	

<sup>\*</sup>Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building and flood plain permits

26. Application is hereby made for a permit or permits to authorize the work described in this application. I certify that the information in this application is complete and accurate. Lfurther certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

SIGNATURE OF AGENT

The application must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) or it may be signed by a duly authorized agent if the statement in block 11 has been filled out and signed.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

#### **Project Description: Marshall Access Trail**

United Utilities, Inc. desires to construct a utility line containing power and communications cables in Marshall, Alaska as part of Phase II of the DeltaNet project. The DeltaNet project aims to connect a terrestrial high speed digital microwave network to Marshall, as well as provide service to other villages from the Marshall location. Telemedicine and broadband internet are to be the initial services provided by the project.

#### **DeltaNet Phase I Overview**

The overall objective of the project is to construct a terrestrial microwave network linking the native villages in the Yukon-Kuskokwim river drainage area of southwest Alaska. Phase I (Figure 1) is scheduled to be completed by November 1, 2006 and to provide service and broadband internet to health clinics.

It is important to understand that the geographical locations of the villages and the requirements of long-haul microwave radio systems coincide at specific locations due to terrain and other features. Specifically, key locations such as Kalskag Hill (facing five directions) and Tununak Hill (facing five directions) allow the network to minimize facility expense.

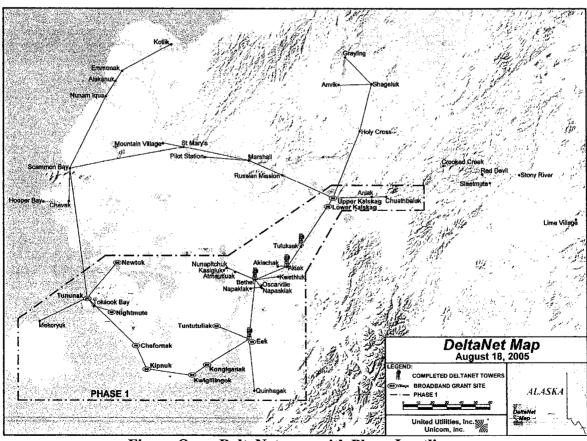


Figure One: DeltaNet map with Phase I outline

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#### **DeltaNet Phase II**

Continuing on with the effort, and building upon the experience gained from the design and installation of Phase I sites, Phase II involves the completion of the network.

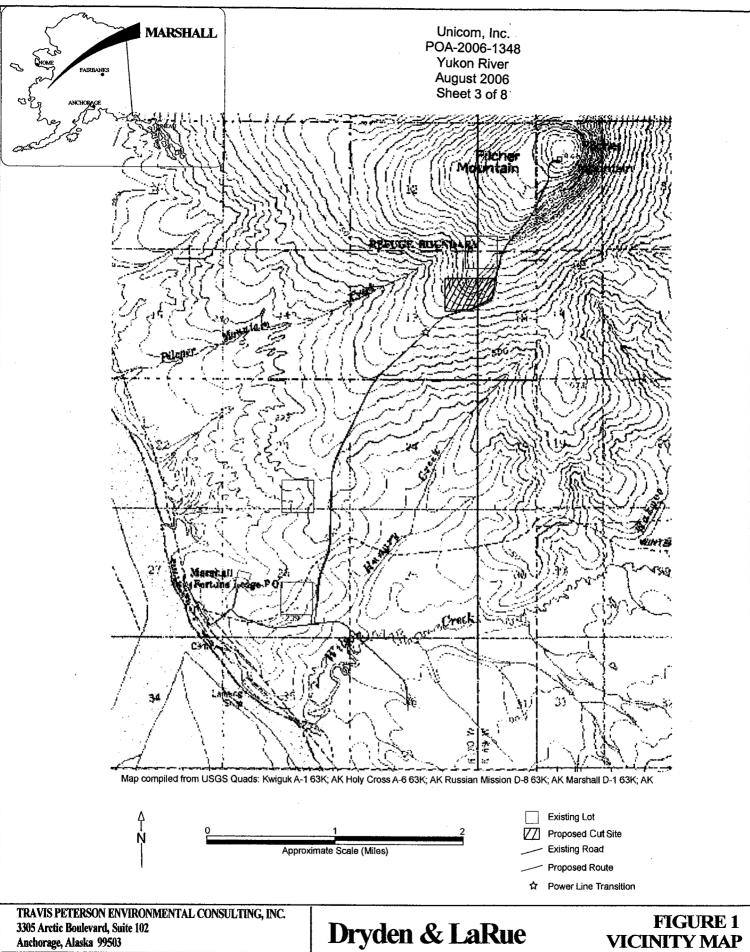
There are two critical mountain top sites in Phase II which require considerable engineering and permitting to accomplish, due to their locations. Scammon Bay has a hill approximately 3.5 miles from the village, and faces four directions. Marshall has a hill approximately 4.5 miles from the village and it faces three directions, but it is critical to connect the network in a ring, necessary for network reliability. The Marshall site is a key backbone site that continues the network ring and also feeds the village of Pilot Station.

#### **Project Description and Proposed Schedule**

From an existing road east of Marshall, an access trail will be constructed extending approximately 4.5 miles north-northeast to a site near the summit of Pilcher Mountain. A telecommunication tower and associated maintenance building will be constructed at the Pilcher Mountain site. The building will provide storage and shelter for maintenance crews and associated equipment working on the tower and lines. Electrical and communication cables associated with the tower will run aboveground on power poles for the portion of the route nearest Marshall, and will be buried beneath the access trail above an elevation of approximately 650 feet, as recommended in a climatological report which assessed regional icing conditions. Spring construction over frozen ground will be required.

The scope of effort includes the following construction objectives and timeline:

- Access trail from village to tower site (March 2007)
- Power and communications line along access trail (March 2007)
- Power and communications buried to avoid icing at specific location in elevation (based on climatological report) (April 2007)
- Construction of tower and placement of antennas and transmission lines (April 2007)
- Placement of building (April 2007)
- Fencing of site for safety reasons (April 2007)
- Placement of electronics and power systems. (May 2007)

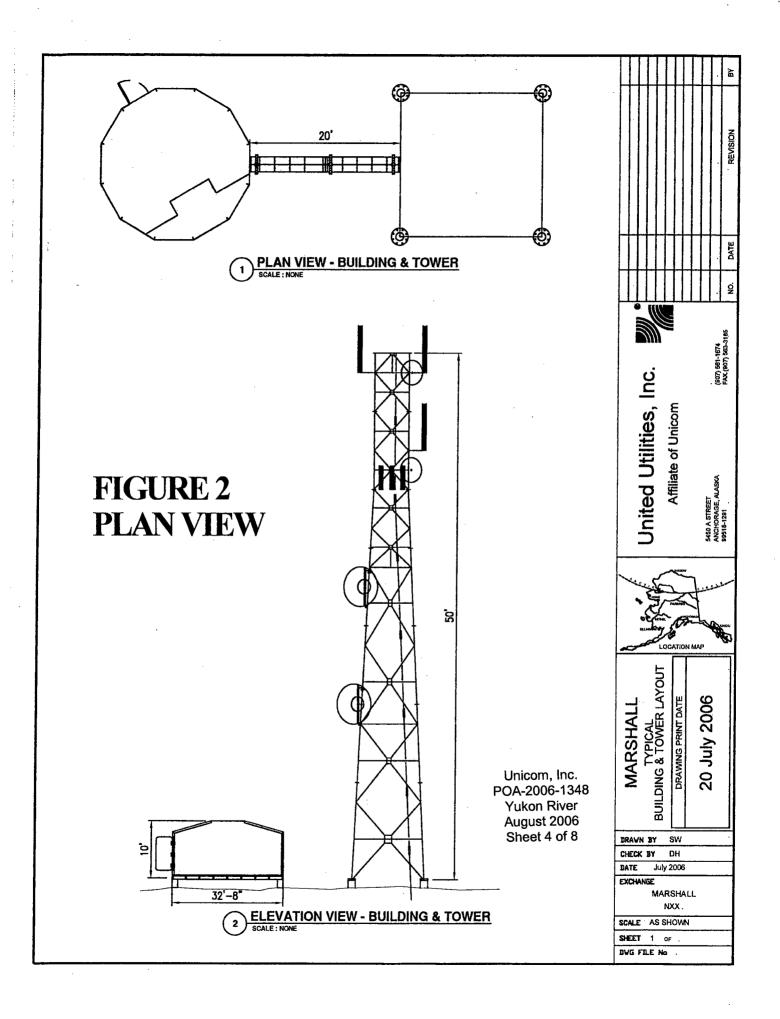


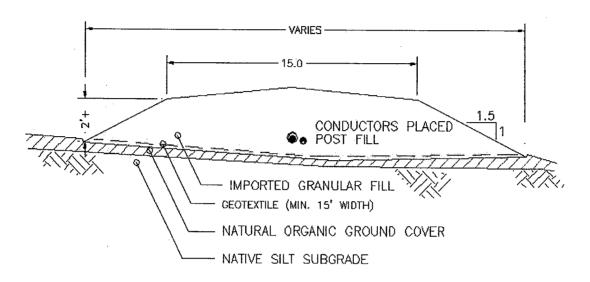
FILE: 1088 - Dryden & LaRue/09 - Marshall Telecommunication Tower/Figures/Figure 1

PROJECT No: 1088-09

DATE: 7-31-06

SCALE: AS SHOWN





#### NOTES:

GRANULAR FILL TO CONSIST OF COARSE QUARRY ROCK

BASE SURFACE TO BE PREPARED BY COMPRESSING SCRUB AND BRUSH IN-PLACE, THEN PLACING FABRIC DIRECTLY OVER NATURAL ORGANIC GROUND COVER.

WIDTH OF DISTURBED AREA WILL TYPICALLY BE LESS THAN 30 FT. BUT WILL VARY DEPENDING DEPTH OF EMBANKMENT FILL AND GROUND SLOPE. ROAD SURFACE WIDTH WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 25 FT. IN 50 FT. LONG PULLOUTS. PULLOUTS TO BE SPACED AT 1/4 MILE INTERVALS.

## TYPICAL FILL SECTION

Unicom, Inc. POA-2006-1348 Yukon River August 2006 Sheet 5 of 8

TRAVIS PETERSON ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING, INC. 3305 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 102

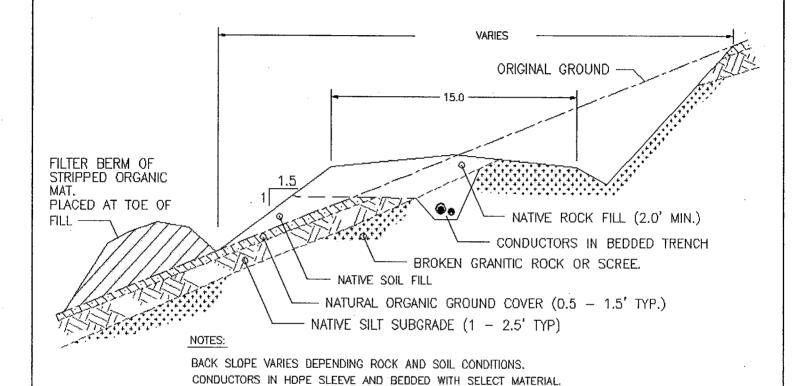
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

**DRYDEN & LARUE** 

FIGURE 3 TRAIL TYPICAL FILL SECTION

FILE: 1088 - Dryden & LaRue/09 - Marshall Telecommunication Tower/Figures/Figure 3 PROJECT No: 1088-09

DATE: 7-19-06 | NO SCALE



TRAIL TYPICAL CUT/FILL SECTION NTS

> Unicom, Inc. POA-2006-1348 Yukon River August 2006 Sheet 6 of 8

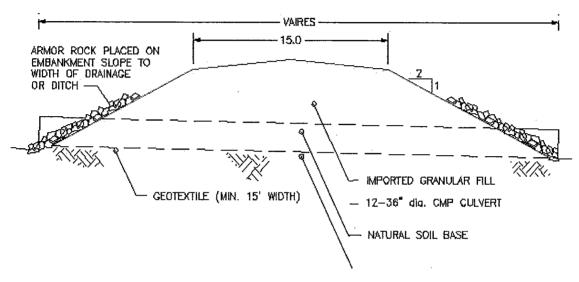
TRAVIS PETERSON ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING, INC. 3305 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 102

Anchorage, Alaska 99503

FIGURE 4 DRYDEN & LARUE TRAIL TYPICAL CUT/FILL SECTION

PROJECT No: 1088-09 | FILE: 1088 - Dryden & LaRue/09 - Marshall Telecommunication Tower/Figures/Figure 4

DATE: 7-19-06 NO SCALE



KUTES!

GRANULAR FILL TO CONSIST OF CLEAN GRAVEL OR QUARRY ROCK
CULVERT TO BE PLACED IN NATURAL DRAINAGE OR DITCH FLOW LINE,
NATURAL GROUND COVER TO REMAIN AT TOE OF EMBANKMENT SLOPES.
IN AREA OF CULVERT INSTALLATION, ALL SLOPES OR DISTURB AREAS WILL BE
REVEGETATED BY SEEDING OR STABILIZED WITH ARMOR ROCK.

## CULVERT TYPICAL SECTION

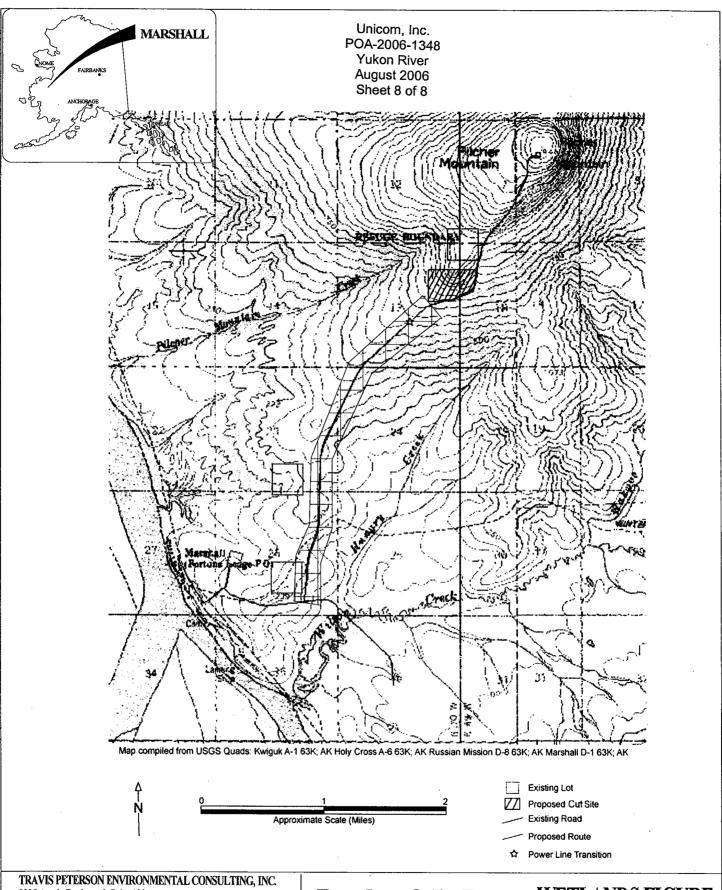
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TRAVIS PETERSON ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING, INC. 3305 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 102 Anchorage, Alaska 99503

DRYDEN & LARUE CULVERT TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION

PROJECT No: 1088-09 | FILE: 1088 - Dryden & LaRue/09 - Marshall Telecommunication Tower/Figures/Figure 5

DATE: 7-19-06 NO SCALE



TRAVIS PETERSON ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING, INC. 3305 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 102 Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dryden & LaRue

WETLANDS FIGURE

PROJECT No: 1088-09

FILE: 1088 - Dryden & LaRue/09 - Marshall Telecommunication Tower/Figures/Wetlands Figure

DATE: 8-23-06

SCALE: AS SHOWN

### STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMNT AND PERMITTING

ALASKA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT 550 WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SUITE 1660 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3568

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Office of Project Management and Permitting for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. **POA-2006-1348, Yukon River**, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

The Office of Project Management and Permitting requests your comments, particularly on the proposed project's consistency with the affected local coastal district management program. For more information on the consistency review contact OPMP at (907) 269-7470 or (907) 465-3562, or visit the ACMP web site at http://www.gov.state.ak.us/gdc/Projects/projects.html.

## STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

#### **DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

DIVISION OF WATER
401 Certification Program
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. <u>POA-2006-1348</u>, <u>Yukon River</u>, State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation WQM/401 Certification 555 Cordova Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617 Telephone: (907) 269-6281

Telephone: (907) 269-6281 FAX: (907) 269-7508